

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 04997 01 OF 02 171715Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----029667 171721Z /47

O 171702Z MAR 7
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9206
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 MOSCOW 04997

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UNSC, PBOR, PEPR, IS, LE, UR
SUBJECT: DEMARCHE TO SOVIETS ON UNSC ACTION IN MIDDLE EAST

REF: STATE 68560

1. DCM CALLED TODAY ON OLEG GRINEVSKIY, DEPUTY CHIEF OF MFA NEAR EAST DIVISION, TO INFORM HIM OF THE STEPS WE BELIEVE ARE NECESSARY TO PRESERVE LEBANON'S TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY. AFTER REVIEWING POINTS IN PARA 3 REFTEL, DCM EXPRESSED HOPE THAT SOVIETS WOULD SUPPORT THESE PROPOSALS.

2. GRINEVSKIY SAID THAT SOVIETS WOULD SUPPORT INSCRIPTION OF QUESTION AT UNSC, AND ASKED WHETHER U.S. HAD CONSULTED WITH ARAB COUNTRIES REGARDING ITS PROPOSALS. DCM REPLIED THAT HE WAS NOT INFORMED OF PRECISE STAGE OF OUR CONSULTATIONS, BUT UNDERSTOOD THAT WE WOULD BE CONSULTING WITH VARIOUS INTERESTED COUNTRIES. GRINEVSKIY THEN OBSERVED THAT "RESTORING LEBANESE CIVILIAN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 04997 01 OF 02 171715Z

AND MILITARY CONTROL TO BORDER REGION" SEEMED TO REPRESENT A NOVEL FUNCTION FOR UN PEACEKEEPING FORCES, BUT HE DID NOT QUESTION THE CONCEPT OTHERWISE. HE SAID THAT U.S. PROPOSALS WOULD BE GIVEN CAREFUL CONSIDERATION AND THAT U.S. AND SOVIET REPRESENTATIVES WOULD BE IN TOUCH REGARDING THESE MATTERS IN NEW YORK, AND PERHAPS ELSE-

WHERE.

3. IN EXPLANATION OF CURRENT SOVIET POSITION, GRINEVSKIY REFERRED TO MARCH 16 TASS STATEMENT AND TO OTHER ARTICLES IN SOVIET PRESS. DCM NOTED THAT WE ARE OF COURSE FAMILIAR WITH THESE STATEMENTS, AND THAT WE ARE FRANKLY DISTURBED BY THE TENDENTIOUS AND ONE-SIDED APPROACH TAKEN BY THE SOVIET PRESS, AND ALSO BY THE SOVIET MEDIA'S INSINUATIONS OF U.S. COMPLICITY AND ITS MISREPRESENTATION OF U.S. POLICY IN GENERAL. IN THIS CONTEXT, HE OUTLINED POINTS MADE BY DEPARTMENT PRESS SPOKESMAN ON MARCH 16.

4. GRINEVSKIY PROTESTED - WITHOUT MUCH HEAT - THAT SOVIET PRESS HAD BEEN "OBJECTIVE" IN COVERING SITUATION, AND THEN TURNED TO A STATEMENT WHICH HAD BEEN PREPARED IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING, AND WHICH HE READ IN RUSSIAN FROM HANDWRITTEN NOTES. IN CLOSE PARAPHRASE, IT WENT AS FOLLOWS (NO COPY WAS SUPPLIED):

A. THE SOVIETS ASSUME THAT THE U.S. RECOGNIZES THE DANGER OF THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN LEBANON AND THE CONSEQUENCES WHICH MAY FLOW FROM IT UNLESS URGENT STEPS ARE TAKEN TO TERMINATE THE ISRAELI INTERVENTION AND WITHDRAW ISRAELI FORCES FROM LEBANESE TERRITORY. OTHERWISE, IT CANNOT BE EXCLUDED THAT EVENTS COULD TAKE A TURN SO THAT OTHER MIDDLE EAST STATES, AND NOT

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 04997 01 OF 02 171715Z

THEM ALONE, COULD BE DRAWN INTO THE CONFLICT.

B. IT IS OBVIOUS THAT ISRAELI MILITARY INTERVENTION IN LEBANON, UNLESS IT IS HALTED IMMEDIATELY, CAN DELAY THE POSSIBILITY OF A M.E. SETTLEMENT FOR MANY YEARS, AND EVEN UNDERMINE IT COMPLETELY.

C. SOVIETS URGENTLY APPEAL TO U.S. TO USE EVERY MEANS AT ITS DISPOSAL TO ENCOURAGE ISRAEL TO CEASE ITS INTERVENTION, TO COMPLETELY WITHDRAW ITS TROOPS FROM LEBANESE TERRITORY, AND TO REFRAIN FROM FURTHER UNSETTLING ACTS.

D. THE SOVIETS HAVE BEEN CONSULTING WITH THE ARAB COUNTRIES INTENSIVELY, AND CONSIDER IT AN URGENT NECESSITY FOR BOTH THE U.S. AND USSR TO WORK ACTIVELY TOWARD AN OVERALL PEACE SETTLEMENT IN THE M.E.

5. DCM RECALLED PHRASE USED BY GRINEVSKIY IN HIS INITIAL POINT THAT OTHER M.E. STATES "AND NOT THEM ALONE" COULD BE DRAWN INTO CONFLICT, AND ASKED IF GRINEVSKIY COULD BE SPECIFIC AS TO ITS MEANING.

GRINEVSKIY SAID HE WAS SPEAKING OF "LOGICAL DEVELOPMENT OF EVENTS" IN EXPLOSIVE M.E. SITUATION, AND SAID THAT PERHAPS HE HAD BEEN "TOO DARING" IN SUGGESTING POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT OF NON-M.E. COUNTRIES, BUT STATED THAT IF CONFLICT WIDENED, IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT COUNTRIES OUTSIDE THE REGION COULD BE DRAWN IN. HE DENIED, HOWEVER, THAT ANY SPECIFIC COUNTRIES WERE IMPLIED IN THIS PHRASE.

6. DCM OBSERVED THAT HE HOPED THAT OUR GOVERNMENTS COULD FIND A COMMON LANGUAGE ON THIS QUESTION, AND

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 04997 02 OF 02 171717Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----029691 171723Z /47

O 171702Z MAR 7
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9207
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 MOSCOW 04997
EXDIS

SUGGESTED THAT U.S. PROPOSALS PROVIDE AN EXCELLENT PRACTICAL MEANS OF ACHIEVING THE PRINCIPAL SOVIET AIMS AS SET FORTH IN HIS STATEMENT. GRINEVSKIY SAID THAT HE, TOO, HOPED THAT COOPERATION WOULD BE POSSIBLE, AS IT WAS AT THE TIME OF THE U.S.-SOVIET JOINT STATEMENT OF LAST OCTOBER.

7. COMMENT: GRINEVSKIY WAS OBVIOUSLY NOT IN A POSITION TO RESPOND CONCRETELY TO U.S. PROPOSALS, BUT WE WERE STRUCK BY THE ABSENCE OF THE USUAL SOVIET ACROMONY IN HIS DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUE. TOON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEMARCHE, INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCES, INTERVENTION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MOSCOW04997
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D780119-0678
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197803123/aaaafvhv.hcl
Line Count: 168
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: 89615ebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 STATE 68560
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3164015
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 970815
Subject: DEMARCHE TO SOVIETS ON UNSC ACTION IN MIDDLE EAST
TAGS: PBOR, IS, LE, UR, US, XF, PBOR, PEPR, UNSC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/89615ebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014